

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1333**

By Mr. Bradley of Hingham, petition of Garrett J. Bradley relative to actions for assault and battery alleging a defendant sexually abused a minor. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ACTIONS FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY ALLEGING A DEFENDANT SEXUALLY ABUSED A MINOR.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 4C of Chapter 260 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, shall be amended by substi-  
3 tuting for the first paragraph thereof the following section:—  
4 Any actions for assault and battery alleging the defendant sexu-  
5 ally abused a minor, or for negligence alleging that the defendant  
6 negligently supervised a third person who sexually abused a minor,  
7 or that the defendant’s conduct caused or contributed to the sexual  
8 abuse of a minor by a third person, may be commenced at any time  
9 after the acts alleged to have caused an injury or condition.

1 SECTION 2. The provisions of Section 1 shall apply only to  
2 claims which accrue on or after the date upon which it becomes  
3 effective. Notwithstanding said provision, for a period of three years  
4 after the effective date of this act, all claims which are brought under  
5 said Section 4C shall not be subject to the defense of any Statute of  
6 Limitations, or laches, regardless of the date on which the subject  
7 matter tort occurred.

1 SECTION 3. The provisions of Section 1 shall apply to all claims  
2 under Section 4C of Chapter 260 which have accrued, and to all  
3 actions which are pending, on the date upon which it becomes  
4 effective.

1 SECTION 4. The provisions of Section 1 shall be deemed to be  
2 retroactive to the fullest extent permitted under the Constitution of  
3 the United States and the Declaration of Rights of the Common-  
4 wealth of Massachusetts.